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BOROUGH OF MALDON.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. LESLIE R. PHILIP,  
M.B., Ch.B.,

including the

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1 9 4 5

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1945.

The Worshipful The Mayor  
(Alderman S.G. Tydeman, J.P.)

Chairman: Alderman C.C. Cowell.

Deputy Chairman: Councillor E.C. Dines.

Councillors:

F. G. Barbrook.  
C. W. Betts.  
D. W. Everitt.  
G. W. Free.  
A. Gepp.  
W. A. Gibbins.  
J. W. Gozzett.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Town Clerk: Charles H. Cloughton.

Acting Medical Officer of Health : J. Leslie R. Philip, M.B., Ch.B.  
(Also engaged in private practice)

Sanitary Inspector : R. H. Sershall, Cert. S.I.B.,  
M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert.R.San.I.  
Meat and Food Inspector.  
(From 1st January to 27th August)

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B O R O U G H    O F    M A L D O N.

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To the Mayor, the Aldermen and Burgesses  
of the Borough of Maldon.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year 1945, in the form prescribed by the Minister of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.    The Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 of the population are given below:-

<u>Birth Rate.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1944.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1942.</u>
	17.1	19.8	14.6	14.8
<u>Death Rate.</u>	11.7	13.8	14.0	14.1

Owing to the continued extensive movement of population due to war conditions it has not been possible for the Registrar General to give a "Comparability Factor" to enable comparison to be made between local death rates.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1944.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1942.</u>
Notifications	434	166	76	90
Deaths from	1	3	7	4

An epidemic of measles occurred during the year, but, although 301 cases were notified the epidemic was benign in character. A small outbreak of dysentery occurred in St. Peters Hospital.

The Maldon Joint Hospital Board's Hospital at Heybridge has continued to meet the needs of the area, despite difficulties in regard to staffing.



SCABIES. Few cases have been notified to me and the incidence is not widespread.

VENEREAL DISEASE. There has not been any increase in the number of cases of venereal disease coming to the notice of the local medical practitioners.

I wish to thank the Council for the help given to me during the year and to acknowledge the assistance given to me by the Officers of your Council.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. Leslie R. Philip.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.





# REPORT

of the

Acting Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1945.

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area. Land (Acres) as extended 1st April, 1934 .....	5946
Inland Water .....	13
Tidal Water .....	120
Freshwater .....	566

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Total.....6645

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Population (Census 1931, Original Borough) .....	6559
R.G. Estimate, 1945 - Extended Borough) ....	8807

Number of Inhabited Houses (End of 1945) .....	2790
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Rateable Value, unreduced .....	£58,514
" " reduced .....	£51,430

Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	£204
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Social Conditions: The chief industries of the town are engineering, timber yards and flour milling. There is also a small amount of fishing and some agriculture.

## Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total.	Males.	Females.	
Births.	(Legitimate	134	73	61	) Birth rate per 1,000 ) of estimated resident ) population .. 17.1
	(Illegitimate	17	12	10	
	(Total	151	80	71	
Still Births.	(Legitimate	2	2	-	) Rate per 1,000 total ) births (live and still) ) .. 17.7
	(Illegitimate	3	-	3	
	(Total	5	2	3	
Deaths.		105	51	52	Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population .. 11.7



Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

Number of deaths under one year of age..... 6  
 All Infants per 1,000 live births.....39.8  
 Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....37.3  
 Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births..58.8

Deaths Classified by Age.

	Number in district.	Outward transfers.	Inward Transfers.	Number which apply to district.
Under 1 year	5	1	2	6
1 and under 2	1	-	1	2
2 " " 5	-	-	-	-
5 " " 15	4	1	-	3
15 " " 25	-	-	-	-
25 " " 35	2	2	1	1
35 " " 45	3	1	1	3
45 " " 55	8	6	4	6
55 " " 65	20	13	7	14
65 " " 75	53	31	7	29
75 and upwards	104	68	4	40
Total	200	123	27	104 @

@ This total figure is one more than the figure given by the Registrar General.



Deaths Classified by Cause and Sex.

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females..	Total.
Diphtheria ... ..	1	-	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)...	1	1	2
Tuberculosis (Other forms).	1	-	1
Syphilitic Diseases..	-	1	1
Cancer... ..	9	7	16
Diabetes. ... ..	-	1	1
Intracranial vascular lesions ...	3	5	8
Heart Disease.. ... ..	16	22	38
Other circulatory diseases. ...	2	-	2
Bronchitis ... ..	4	6	10
Pneumonia ... ..	2	1	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	2	1	3
Other digestive diseases... ..	2	-	2
Nephritis ... ..	1	2	3
Puer: & post abort: sepsis. ...	-	1	1
Congenital malformations, birth injuries or infantile diseases. ...	2	2	4
Suicide.. ... ..	1	-	1
Other violent causes. ... ..	1	1	2
All other causes ... ..	3	1	4
Total .. ... ..	51	52	103

There were no deaths due to road traffic accidents

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

- (i) Ambulance Facilities. The Corporation provide one ambulance for medical, surgical and accident cases. An ambulance is provided by the Maldon Joint Hospital Board for the removal of patients suffering from infectious diseases.
- (ii) Hospitals. (a) Infectious Diseases. Cases of infectious disease are received and treated in the Isolation Hospital at Heybridge, Maldon, by arrangement with the Maldon Joint Hospital Board. This hospital comprises an administrative block, ward blocks with 28 beds, a laundry and disinfecting block.





- (ii) Hospitals. (b) Smallpox. Arrangement has been made with  
(contd) the County Council for the treatment of  
patients suffering from smallpox.
- (iii) Tuberculosis. The County Council provide a number of  
sanatoria throughout the County. The Tuberculosis Dispensary  
at Maldon is situated in the Combined Treatment Centre in  
Wantz Chase, Maldon, where sessions are held on the second  
and fourth Thursdays in each month at ten o'clock in the  
morning.
- (iv) Maternity and Child Welfare. The County Council is the  
responsible authority for these services and full use can  
be made of the facilities offered through the County Scheme.  
Adequate provision for hospital treatment and specialists'  
services are similarly available where necessary.

Various clinics in the above connection are  
provided at the Combined Treatment Centre, Wantz Chase,  
Maldon, where sessions are held as follows :-

Womens Welfare :	1st Monday in each month, at 2.0 p.m.
Child Welfare Clinic:	Fridays at 2.0 p.m.
Ante Natal Clinic:	1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month at 2.0 p.m.
Minor Ailments Clinic:	Fridays at 10.0 a.m.
Dental Clinic:	Mondays at 10.0 a.m.

There are two district nurse midwives practising in  
the area. Besides their midwifery duties they carry out a good  
deal of general nursing in the homes of patients. Thus the  
Nursing Association plays a very important part in the health  
services in the district.

There is one private nursing home in the town which  
is registered by the Essex County Council.

- (v) School Children. The County Council is the Education  
Authority for both secondary and elementary schools in the  
Borough. Minor Ailments, Orthopaedic After-Treatment,  
Dental and Eye Clinics for school children are arranged by  
the County Council at the Combined Treatment Centre, Wantz  
Chase, Maldon.
- (vi) Venereal Diseases. Under the County Scheme facilities  
exist for diagnosis and treatment in Chelmsford, Colchester  
and Southend.





Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. (i) Water. The Borough, with the exception of a few outlying houses, is served by a piped water supply, which is in the hands of the Corporation.

The Water is supplied from two deep wells, but owing to the insufficient yield the supply is inadequate (800,000 gallons per week) and is supplemented by an average of 800,000 gallons per week taken from the Southend Water Co's mains.

Routine chemical and bacteriological examinations of these sources of supply were carried out during the year under review and the results of these examinations have all proved to have been satisfactory, giving a water clear and bright in appearance, faintly alkaline in reaction and free from metals apart from an insignificant trace of iron, soft in character, a high but not excessive content of salinity and of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity. In these respects it was considered to be wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

The water is chlorinated and daily records are maintained of the operation of the chlorination plants.

- (ii) Drainage and Sewerage. A scheme for the improvement of the main drainage and disposal of sewage has been lodged with the Minister of Health.

2. Rivers and Streams. No action has been taken during the year to check the pollution of rivers or streams. Improved sewerage would undoubtedly improve the condition of the upper part of the Blackwater Estuary.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation. A very large proportion, practically one quarter, of the town is dealt with under the conservancy system. This is one urgent reason for carrying out an improved sewerage scheme. There are 656 pail closets, 16 earth closets and 137 cesspools in the area.

- (ii) Public Cleansing. The emptying of pail closets is carried out departmentally by means of a motor vehicle. The vehicle is of Messrs. Shelvoke & Drewery manufacture, 6/7 cubic yards capacity, low loading, end tipping and petrol driven, with a removable metal container for the reception of the contents of night soil pails.

House refuse is collected from domestic premises once per week, and is disposed of by controlled tipping.



Night soil is collected from parts of the Borough twice weekly and disposed of by tipping into sewage tanks.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R.H. Sershall, left to take up another appointment on the 27th August, 1945. From that date until the end of the year, Mr. G.L. Turner, Sanitary Inspector to Maldon Rural District Council acted in matters of urgency.

(a) The following inspections and visits have been carried out during the year:-

Inspections for housing defects and revisits . . .	161
Sanitary routine inspections and revisits . . . . .	63
Inspections of slaughter-houses and foodstuffs . . .	87
"          of Food premises . . . . .	22
"          of cowsheds and dairies . . . . .	43
"          of factories and bakehouses . . . . .	65
Visits in connection with milk sampling . . . . .	37
"          "          water sampling and water	
services . .	46
"          "          infectious disease . . . . .	48
Number of rooms disinfected . . . . .	21
Inspection of verminous premises and revisits . . .	28
Inspection of dirty premises and revisits . . . . .	30
Drainage inspections and revisits . . . . .	43
Drain tests . . . . .	11
Inspections and revisits in connection with rat	
destruction .	125
Common Lodging House inspections . . . . .	4
Houses-let-in-lodgings inspections . . . . .	3
Visits in connection with defects in Council's	
property . . .	18
Other miscellaneous visits . . . . .	77
Total inspections . . . . .	<u>932</u>

(b) Action taken in consequence of inspections :-

Informal notices served under the Public	
Health Act . . . .	129
Statutory notices served under the Public	
Health Act . . . .	12
	<u>141</u>

(c) Result of these notices :-

Defects remedied in consequence of informal	
notices . . . . .	88
Defects remedied in consequence of Statutory	
Notices under the Public Health Act, 1936 . . .	6
	<u>94</u>





(d) Summary of work carried out as a result of informal and formal action:-

Defective drains renewed.....	11
Drains unblocked and cleansed.....	24
Flushing apparatus repaired to water closets.....	7
Defective sink waste pipes.....	5
Defective water closet pedestals.....	6
Defective pail closets.....	9
Premises without proper sanitary accommodation....	2
Defective ventilating shafts.....	3
Defective intercepting chamber.....	1
"                    "                    "                    cover.....	1
Dirty sanitary accommodation.....	2
Proper sanitary dust bins provided in place of defective bins.....	19
Roofs repaired.....	15
Gutters repaired or renewed.....	14
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt.....	3
Chimney pots renewed.....	6
Floors repaired or renewed.....	11
Sub-floor ventilation provided.....	4
Walls repaired or rebuilt.....	4
Wall plaster repaired.....	5
Damp walls treated.....	6
Defective ceilings repaired or renewed.....	9
"          firegrates repaired or renewed.....	12
"          washing coppers repaired or renewed.....	5
"          windows repaired.....	3
"          doors repaired.....	2
Sanitary sinks provided.....	7
Dirty premises cleansed.....	17
Verminous premises disinfested and cleansed.....	8

(iv). Shops. No action under this heading has been found necessary.

(v). Camping Sites.

Due to war restrictions the camping sites in the area were little used during the year.

The Camp Sites are controlled under Part IX of the Essex County Council Act, 1933, but the Byelaws made thereunder have now expired.

(vi). Smoke Abatement. No action under this heading has been found necessary.

(vii). Swimming Baths and Pools. The Corporation owns a large open air salt water swimming pool of about 2½ million gallons capacity. This is situate alongside the estuary.

(b) [Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

(c) [Illegible text]

(d) [Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

(e) [Illegible text]

(f) [Illegible text]









The following is a list of the inspections and improvements carried out as a formal or informal action by the Council or their officers.

Inspections of cowsheds and dairies . . . . . 43

Improvements carried out:

Floors of dairies renewed . . . . .	2
Lighting and ventilation improved . . . . .	2
Paving outside cowsheds provided . . . . .	1
Steam sterilizers provided . . . . .	2
New coolers provided . . . . .	2
Miscellaneous . . . . .	4

Close co-operation is effected between the County Council and the Local Sanitary Authority in the granting of licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The County Veterinary Inspector also notifies the local Medical Officer of Health of any action under the Tuberculosis Order, 1935.

Samples of Accredited Milks are taken for examination by the Methylene Blue Reduction Test and Coliform Test. Samples of Pasteurised Milk are taken for examination by the Phosphatase Test to ascertain whether or not the milk has been efficiently pasteurised.

Samples of milk are also taken for biological examination.

(b). Inspection of Meat and Other Foods. There are ten butchers' shops within the district.

The slaughtering of food animals in this area was discontinued under the Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940.

A small number of pigs belonging to "self suppliers" have been slaughtered and inspected in this area.

The undermentioned foodstuffs have been condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year:-

<u>Item.</u>	<u>Weight</u> <u>(Approx).</u>
	lb.
18 Tins of Corned Beef . . . . .	29 $\frac{1}{4}$
154 Tins Evaporated Milk . . . . .	150
22 Tins Beans . . . . .	19 $\frac{1}{2}$
7 Tins Peas . . . . .	6
12 Tins Pea Soup . . . . .	12



9	Tins Pork & Beans.....	9
7	Tins Grade III Salmon.....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	Tins Grade I Salmon.....	1
5	Tins Sardines.....	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
1	Tin Mackerel.....	$\frac{3}{4}$
11	Tins Pork Luncheon Meat.....	17 $\frac{1}{4}$
10	Tins Meat & Vegetable Stew.....	10
1	Tin Herring.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
1	Tin Golden Syrup.....	1
4	Tins Stewed Steak.....	4
2	Tins Chopped Ham.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	Tins Pork.....	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
3	Tins Tomato Paste.....	21
5	Tins Marmalade.....	10
2	Tins Corned Mutton.....	12
-	Jam (Tins and Jars).....	21
1	Tin Spam.....	$\frac{3}{4}$
71	Tins Lobster & Tomato Paste.....	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	Bottles Sauce.....	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
1	Pot Ham & Beef Paste.....	$\frac{1}{8}$
1	Jar Sweet Pickle.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
-	Codling.....	84
-	Plaice.....	52
4	Veal.....	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
-	Semolina.....	108
-	Rolled Oats.....	176
-	Sausages.....	24
-	Sugar.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

Prepared food premises, including restaurant kitchens, bakehouses and sausage making rooms, etc., are inspected regularly.

(c & d). Adulteration. Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food. The Local Authority is not the Food and Drugs Authority for this area, the County Council being the appropriate Authority for this work.

(e). Nutrition. No special work in the dissemination of knowledge on this subject has been considered necessary.

(f). Shellfish (Molluscan). The only shellfish gathered in important quantities in the district are winkles, of which about 900 cwt. are gathered annually by hand picking on the estuarial mud flats at low water.



- (1) These shellfish are sent to Billingsgate Market.
- (2) The gathering grounds are at a considerable distance from any sewage outfall and appear not to be liable to pollution.

#### Infectious Diseases.

Anti-toxin is used promptly in all suspected cases of diphtheria by the Medical Practitioners within the Borough, and is available at the Municipal Offices and Isolation Hospital.

School notifications of suspected infectious disease or of contacts are regularly received.

The following table gives the cases notified together with the number of deaths:











### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The immunisation against diphtheria of children in this area continued to be satisfactory, the last ascertainable figures for the year show the number of children immunised to be as follows:-

	Age under 5 years.	Age 5 years and over, but under 15.	Total.
(a) Number of children who completed full course of immunisation in the area during the year 1945.	75	3	78

	<u>Under 5.</u>	<u>Between 5 and 15.</u>
(b) Approximate estimated number of children in the area at mid 1945	651	1,190
(c) Percentage of the child population shown under above considered to be immunised at 31st December, 1945.	66%	94%

### Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been found necessary for the prevention or treatment of blindness.

### Tuberculosis.

No action under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, has been necessary.



# TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases of, and Mortality from Tuberculosis  
During 1945.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 - 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 15	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
15 - 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 - 35	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 - 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 - 55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 - 65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals.	1	1	2	—	1	1	1	—

There was one non-notified tuberculosis death during the year.



# Report on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

## 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. Including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupier prosecuted. (4)
FACTORIES with mechan- ical power ...	30	5	—
FACTORIES without mech- anical power...	24	6	—
OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and engin- eering construction but not including outworkers premises)... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	54	11	—

@ Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories.

## 2. DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which prose- cutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness ...	11	11	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	2	2	—	—
Sanitary Conven- iences } insufficient. } unsuitable or } defective. } not separate } for sexes,	10	7	—	—
Other offences ... ..	7	7	—	—
	30	25	—	—

